5:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM21

the development of agriculture and irrigation in Abyan has been much appreciated. 242

During the latter part of 1947 it was possible to station a Political Officer in the Abyan and Ahwar areas. His presence and the benefit of increased production in the area have contributed to the appreciable success of the Abyan experiment during the year.

EASTERN ADEN PROTECTORATE

In the Eastern Aden Protectorate considerable political activity was shown by various sections of the Qu'aiti and Kathiri states. In the former, two parties were formed in March, one the National party and the other the Hadhrami party. The latter is for Hadhrami unity, in which it agrees with the Seiyid party of the Kathiri state, which also showed some liveliness at the start of the year. Later, however, the Seiyids began to concentrate less on the general question of Hadhrami unity and more on the immediate question of escaping from paying double taxation. Several committees were formed with this object and in April a deputation waited on the Resident Adviser, whose answer to them was that it was for the Qu'aiti and Kathiri states to co-operate in the matter of lightening the burden of taxation of their subjects. Later the Seiyids sent a telegraphic plea to the Governor and Secretary of State. 665

Meanwhile the National party remained anti-Seiyid and, on the whole, anti-unity. In April they published a manifesto of their aims on the front page of the Aden newspaper, *Fatat-al-Jezira*.

The Arab cause in Palestine continued to arouse considerable sympathy in the Eastern Aden Protectorate. This came to a head in December after the United Nations Assembly had recommended partition and took the form of processions (without violence) and the opening of subscription lists. Telegrams were sent to the Secretary of State and there was a one-day strike in Mukalla and Sai'un. 664

In both Qu'aiti and Kathiri states democratic changes were made in the administration. In the latter a State Council was formed in April and met for the first time in May: it consists at present of three *ex-officio*, three official and three unofficial members. In June the Qu'aiti State Council Decree was amended to allow the representation of provincial communities with the intention of improving relations between the Government and the provinces. These communities were not previously represented. 646 642

Outstanding boundary disputes between the Qu'aiti and Kathiri states remained unsettled throughout the year. 731

Security continued to be disturbed throughout the year in the north-west on the boundaries with the Yemen and Sa'udi Arabia and to a lesser extent in the Wahidi area on the boundaries of the Western Aden Protectorate. In January the Kazimis looted a caravan on its way to Habban. In March there was a big raid by the Dahfn and Abida (Yemeni) on the eastern coastal area. In May the Upper Aulaqi (who owe allegiance to no one) attacked Amaqin in Wahidi; in that month also the Sei'ar 721 619

6:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden
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ADEN PROTECTORATE

PART IV

Chapter 1: General Review

WESTERN ADEN PROTECTORATE

THERE was a general improvement in security and in political matters during the year, but the economic situation remained at a low ebb owing especially to a poor rainfall in most areas.

It was found necessary to occupy Shaibi territory by force in order to put an end to the extremely oppressive rule of the Saqladi Sheikh. The Sheikh fled to the Yemen and the new administration introduced by Government was welcomed by all sections of the population. The area which is at a high attitude should prosper.

The Abyan Development Scheme in Fadhli and Lower Yafai territories made good progress, but relations between Government and the Lower Yafai Sultan continued to be unsatisfactory.

The administration of Subeihi territory was transferred for an experimental period to the Abdali Sultan.

Slow progress was made in the new Dhala (Amiri) administration, but a second season of drought hampered progress. Advances of grain to the value of some £15,000 were made to farmers in the area to prevent a complete economic collapse.

Revenues in the Fadhli and Dathina areas fell as a result of poor harvests.

The Beihan administration made good progress but received a setback towards the end of the year owing to the failure of the autumn harvest and later to frost damage on the well irrigated wheat and barley crops.

There were no trade route incidents during the year.

EASTERN ADEN PROTECTORATE

The Qu'aiti-Kathiri boundary dispute was settled by the arbitration of the Resident Adviser, which both Sultans had agreed to accept as finally binding. When the time came to execute his decisions, the Qu'aiti Sultan showed considerable reluctance to surrender Sah and the Kathiri to surrender forts round Tarim.

Local political parties tended to lose their sting during the year. The Qu'aiti National Party became seriously involved in the question of the surrender of Sah (see above) and also supported, through its representatives within Mukalla Government, the claims of the Tamimi tribe to watch date palms.

Heavy raiding by Saudi tribes in the spring led to a meeting between

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut mm2

631 missioners) and Qaims (Assistant District Commissioners) of the provinces and districts. Naibs were provided with motor vehicles to increase their mobility. An annual conference of all Quaiti, Kathiri and Wahidi Naibs and Qaims has been instituted, at which lectures and practical demonstrations in all administrative subjects are given by local experts.

631 621 Another significant step towards devolution of duties on to Naibs and Qaims has been the setting-up of village councils under their direction and supervision. The activities of these councils include village welfare, hygiene, sanitation, increase of food production, etc. The Sultan of Qu'aiti State has also nominated a Municipal Council for Mukalla.

643 631 The period under review was also notable for increased co-operation in administrative affairs between Qu'aiti and Kathiri and for the settlement of problems common to these two States. The Qu'aiti and Kathiri State Secretaries and senior officials met several times during 1949 and 1950 and joint decisions were taken on such matters as local import and export taxes, development tax on date-bearing palms, postal affairs, remittances from abroad, famine relief and prevention, and unification of vehicle licences.

● [665] 578 With the retirement of Sheikh Seif bin Ali Elbually, C.B.E., from the post of State Secretary to the Qu'aiti Government, in December, 1950, and the appointment of Sheikh Qaddal Sa'id El Qaddal Pasha, M.B.E., formerly Qu'aiti Director of Education who is a Sudanese, as his successor, the so-called Nationalist Party, whose membership does not extend beyond Mukalla Town, seized the opportunity to foment serious rioting, in the quelling of which 16 persons were killed and 24 wounded. Suitable sentences were dealt out to the ringleaders by the Special Court set up by the Sultan to try the offenders. The new State Secretary has been warmly welcomed into the office by all the responsible citizens and officials of the Qu'aiti State in Mukalla and throughout the Provinces.

643 The Kathiri Sultan Ja'far bin Mansur bin Ghalib died on 24th April, 1949, and was succeeded by his nephew Sultan Hussein bin Ali bin Mansur al Kathiri, who was recognised by His Majesty's Government as Treaty Sultan on 22nd May, 1950.

671 During 1950 codified criminal law based on Sharia was introduced in the Qu'aiti State.

Beduin Affairs

631 721 *Wahidi Area.* As a result of the operations against the Khadim of Mithaf and the Al Adhm Tribe in January and February, 1950, the whole Dhiyeibi area came under the Sultan of Balhaf and security posts were established on the western border of the Eastern Aden Protectorate.

In July, 1950, a successful operation was undertaken against Al Ba Dukhn for breach of the peace and the tribe was brought under complete control